

MINUTES
SOUTH CAROLINA AERONAUTICS COMMISSION
August 30, 2017
SC Aerospace Industry Conference and Expo

Commission Members in Attendance

Delphin A. Gantt, Jr., Chairman At-large
Ira E. Coward, District 2
Skeets Cooper, District 3
Doug Barnes, District 5

Visitors

Barb Fritsche, Jviation
Jim Mikelas, Jviation
Steve Hedges, AOPA
Don Purcell
Carlos Salinas, Pickens Co. Airport Manager
Tracy Montross, American Airlines
Nicole Jennings, Executive Budget Office
Alan Woods, Champion Aerospace

Aeronautics Staff in Attendance

James Stephens, Executive Director
Ericka Thomas, Commission Secretary
Paul Werts, Program Manager
Melody Mikell, Finance Director
Gary Siegfried, Airport Engineer

Commission Member(s) Absent

George P. Waters, District 1
Vacant, District 4
Vacant, District 6
Vacant, District 7

Welcome & Call to Order

Chairman Gantt called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and announced a quorum in attendance. He welcomed everyone and gave the invocation.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Gantt presented the minutes of the June 22, 2017 Commission meeting and asked if anyone had any edits or corrections. Since none were forthcoming, the minutes were approved as written.

Financial, Budget, & Executive Director's Reports

Mr. Stephens presented the year end financials for the FY 2016-2017, and reported a general fund carryover of \$82,132.64. The State Aviation Fund received an additional \$208,454.35 bringing the annual State Aviation Fund FY16-17 fuel sales tax revenue to \$1,847,621.39. This amount along with the general fund recurring appropriation and Airline Property Tax revenue brought the total State Aviation Fund annual revenue to \$4,283,026.29. These revenues brought the available cash balance for the year to \$8,071,650.75. The total commitments and expenditures for the year in the State Aviation Fund were \$7,065,744.40 leaving \$1,005,906.35 available for grants and projects in the new fiscal year.

Mr. Stephens then presented the financials as of July 31, 2017, for FY 2017-2018, showing the net Operating at \$1,945,625. The State Aviation Fund received an additional \$173,920.78 for July. No funds related to the Airline Property Tax will be added to the total available funds for airport projects until approximately January or February.

Mr. Stephens gave the Executive Director's Report. Since the last Commission Meeting on June 22, 2017, Mr. Stephens has been part of the State Airport System Planning process (along with staff), and serves on many committees to represent SCAC at the State and National levels. Stephens' report also included a meeting with John Hodge (Counsel for SCAC) regarding a land use issue at MYR (Myrtle Beach) and he reported that he had responded to a request by FAA to comment on the proposed land use.

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Airport Development

Mr. Werts presented the Airport Development Report for August. Since the last meeting on June 22, 2017, Mr. Werts and staff, along with Barb Fritsche and Jim Mikelas from Aviation have been working on the completion of the Airport System Plan which will be released in 2018. In addition, there are airport projects which are still under way and are being monitored by the staff. Mr. Werts asked Gary Siegfried, airport engineer for SCAC, to give an update on the apron project at the SCAC facility, which was reported as having had moved forward with the project bidding partnership with the Columbia Metropolitan Airport in order to secure the construction companies that are needed to complete the project. The project was reported to begin in late fall.

District Reports

Commissioner Coward – No Report.

Commissioner Cooper – Reported that all the airports in District 4 saw large numbers of aircraft flying in during the Eclipse on August 21, 2017, and that the Pickens airport will be closed in the near future for pavement rejuvenation and crack sealing.

Commissioner Barnes – Reported that he has been out visiting the airports in District 5 and will continue making a presence in these areas.

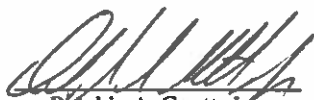
New/Other Business

Chairman Gantt proposed that the next Commission Meeting be held at the SC Aeronautics Commission on November 9, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

Steve Hedges (Aircraft Owners and Pilot's Association) and Tracy Montross (American Airlines) debated the pros and cons of Air Traffic Control (ATC) privatization, and each asked for the Commission's support. At this time ***Chairman Gantt*** recused himself from the discussion and ***Commissioner Coward*** commanded the meeting. During this discussion both presented their organizations position on ATC Privatization and the effects it would have on General Aviation, the airlines, and ultimately the taxpayers. No decision was made by the Commission to oppose or support ATC Privatization at this time.

Adjournment

There being no further business; ***Chairman Gantt*** moved the meeting be adjourned, ***Commissioner Coward*** seconded, and all approved.



Delphin A. Gantt, Jr.
Commission Chairman



Ira E. Coward
Commission Vice-Chairman



Ericka D. Thomas
Commission Secretary

11/9/17 Date

Aeronautics Seal